IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re applicat	ion of	:
Yoshiaki TO	MOTAKE et al.	: Docket No. 2000-1428A
Serial No. [N	ŒW]	: Attn: BOX PCT
Filed October	r 13, 2000	:
	CORDING PAPER ling to PCT/JP00/01055, ary 24, 2000]	THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.
	INFORMATION D	ISCLOSURE STATEMENT
	nmissioner for Patents on, DC 20231	
Sir:		
Pursu	ant to the provisions of 37 CFR	R 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request
consideration	of (X) the references listed on	the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or () the
additional info	ormation identified below in par	ragraph 4. A legible copy of each reference listed on
the Form PTO	O-1449 is enclosed, except a co	py is not provided for each reference previously cited
by or submitt	ed to the Patent Office in prior	parent application Serial No
1. This I	nformation Disclosure Stateme	nt is submitted:
a.	(X) within 3 months of entry	ing date of the above-identified application, or into National stage prosecution of an International mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,
	(X) no certification and/or	fee is required.
b.		ove paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance, and thus:
	() the certification of par	agraph 2 below is provided.

<u>or</u>

a fee of \$240.00 is enclosed.

	C.	() after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:
		() the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and
		() the Petition of paragraph 3 below is provided and \$130.00 fee therefor is enclosed.
2. It is		ereby certified
	()	that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
	()	that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3.	()	Petition under 37 CFR 1.97 for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is hereby made.
4.	()	Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
5.	(X)	For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
		() reference is made to an English language translation or abstract submitted herewith, and/or
		() reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
		(X) reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or

(X)	reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification
	of the present application at page(s) 2, and/or

- () reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
- 6. (X) Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
 - 1. Prior art references described in the Specification:

Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 11-34481/1999 Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 11-34484/1999

2. Prior art references cited in the International Search Report:

Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 6-200484/1994 Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 8-13358/1996 International Publication WO 99/00541 Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-219588/1998 Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-245792/1998

7. () Also enclosed is a copy of the European Search Report citing these references.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshiaki TOMOTAKE et al.

By Matthew Jacob

Registration No. 25,154

Attorney for Applicants

MJ/pjm Washington, D.C. Telephone (202) 721-8200 October 13, 2000